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WEST INDIES.

Reports from Barbados—Inspection and fumigation of vessels—Examination of laborers for the Canal Zone—Malarial fever on steamship Yola, from Calabar, British West Africa.

Assistant Surgeon Ward reports, September 20 and 27 and October 4, as follows:

During the week ended September 16, 1905, bills of health were issued to 4 steamships and 2 sailing vessels with 213 crew, 45 cabin and 77 steerage passengers. Of this number I inspected 2 steamships, 102 crew, 11 cabin and 77 steerage passengers. There were 4 crew, 13 cabin and 10 steerage passengers taken on at this port.

On September 12 I viséed the bill of health of the Republic of Panama issued to the Royal Mail steamship *Trent*, bound to Colon, via other ports on the Caribbean Sea, with 163 crew, 24 laborers, and passengers. There were 31 certificates of vaccination issued to deck passengers for Colon and 409 to laborers recruited for work on the Panama Canal.

For the two weeks ended September 16 I examined 390 men, to ascertain their fitness to act as laborers for work on the Panama Canal, and rejected 59.

On September 15 I fumigated to kill mosquitoes all the compartments, including the holds, of the British steamship *Yola* from Calabar, British West Africa, bound to New Orleans, in water ballast, with 34 crew. During the voyage to this port several of the crew had suffered from malarial fever. On arrival one of the men was found to be convalescing; two of the others had temperatures a little above normal, but were otherwise free from any symptoms.

The general health of this island continues good; no quarantinable diseases have been reported.

Yellow fever reported in French Guiana—Malarial and blackwater fever reported in Dutch Guiana.

During the week ended September 23, 1905, bills of health were issued to 1 steamship and 3 sailing vessels with 93 crew, 20 cabin, and 6 steerage passengers. Of this number I inspected 1 steamship, 2 sailing vessels, 80 crew, and 6 steerage passengers. There were 15 cabin and 6 steerage passengers taken on at this port.

It is reported that up to the 16th instant 2 cases of yellow fever had occurred in French Guiana at one of the convict stations along the Maroni River.

From newspaper reports I learn that in Dutch Guiana over 80 per cent of the employees engaged in constructing a railway from the coast to the interior are in hospital suffering from a severe form of fever diagnosed as malaria. Sixteen of these cases are said to be "blackwater fever."

The general health of Barbados continues good. No quarantinable diseases have been reported.

Examination of laborers suspended—Climatic conditions.

During the week ended September 30, 1905, bills of health were issued to 5 steamships with 153 crew and no passengers. Of this